



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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A millworker installs wood finishing trim to a ceiling soffit inside the South Orientation Theater. The trim is the first woodwork in the CVC.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 7/24/06 through 7/28/06**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza:**

- In the Great Hall mason teams continue setting the floor stone in a decorative basketweave pattern. In less than two weeks, masons have set more than 35 percent of the Great Hall's 21,000 square feet of floor stone.
- A skylight installation contractor has completed installation of structure and glazing for the Great Hall skylights.
- Steel workers continue installing the steel beams and arches that will support the barrel vaulted ceiling that rises up through the East Front transition zone. Meanwhile, masons continue setting stone to the stairs, walls and overhead arches in the basement and Crypt level. Stone installation is complete on the basement level. Abatement of lead paint on the original sandstone façade is complete on the Crypt level and along the north side of the Rotunda level.
- In the Exhibition Hall, masons have completed the floor stone in the northwest quadrant and are continuing to set stone on the steps of the virtual House and Senate Theaters, the only remaining stonework in the Exhibition Hall (EH). Crews have completed installing the ceiling insulation and have applied a first coat of black plaster. A second coat will be applied to the ceiling this week and then crews will begin dismantling the scaffold down the center of the EH.
- A millwork contractor has begun installing wood ceiling trim in the South Orientation Theater. This is the first finish woodwork to be installed anywhere in the CVC. Millwork installation will begin in the north theater in early August.
- Crews continue setting curb stones along the trees-lined pedestrian walkways leading to the CVC entrances and are nearly complete setting the low stone seatwall around the south skylight above the Great Hall.
- Stone installation is nearly 100 percent complete in both the House and Senate stairwell atria on all three levels.
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Inside the CVC's Great Hall, stone masons have made good progress during the last two weeks to set approximately 35 percent of the floor stone for this area.

- Ceiling drywall installation continues in the Food Service area. Wall and floor tile work is substantially complete in both the food preparation area and the servery area. By mid-August, crews are expected to begin installing acoustic fabric panels to the ceiling soffits above the seating area and servery areas.
- Masons continue setting pavers in a decorative pattern around the north historic fountain and final blockwork is ongoing inside the bronze basins. The basins will be fully functional misting fountains when the work is completed.
- Masons continue rebuilding the historic seatwalls around the House and Senate "eggs."
- Inside the House and Senate Expansion Space, the majority of framework and drywall installation is complete on all three levels in both spaces. Wall and ceiling "close-in" inspections for all of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire safety systems are ongoing. The ceiling grid continues being installed throughout the upper level of the Senate Expansion Space and is complete in all but two rooms on the upper level of the House Expansion Space.

### **East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- CVC crews continue installing the necessary insulation to the new utility lines where they connect to the old lines in the Second Street tunnel. A utility line valve was opened last week and the first chilled water began to flow into the CVC. An air handling unit for the Exhibit Hall will be the first unit to become operational since climate control is most critical in this area because it will house precious and historic documents. Meanwhile crews continue to install insulation around steam lines, which are critical to the removal of moisture from the air flowing into the CVC.

## **Next Week – 7/31/06 – 8/04/06**

### **CVC, East Front Plaza Work, East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- Installation of millwork will continue in the South Orientation Theater and may begin in the North Theater.
- Floor stone installation will continue in the Great Hall.
- Masons will continue to install stone to the steps that lead to the virtual House and Senate Theaters in the Exhibit Hall.



- Installation of base and wall stone will continue inside the East Front transition zone at the Crypt level inside the East Front of the Capitol. Abatement work will continue at the Rotunda level along the south side of the East Front.
- Installation of a steel framework will continue in the East Front while masons continue setting stone to the structure.
- Crews are expected to complete insulation work to the steam lines in the CVC utility tunnel.
- Stone masons will continue installation of asphalt pavers in a decorative pattern around the north historic fountain.
- Ceiling work will continue in upper and lower level corridors throughout the CVC, and in the main lobby just east of the Orientation Theaters.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall and ductwork, and continue paint priming in various zones throughout the House and Senate Expansion Space. Wall and ceiling close-in inspections continue throughout both expansion spaces.

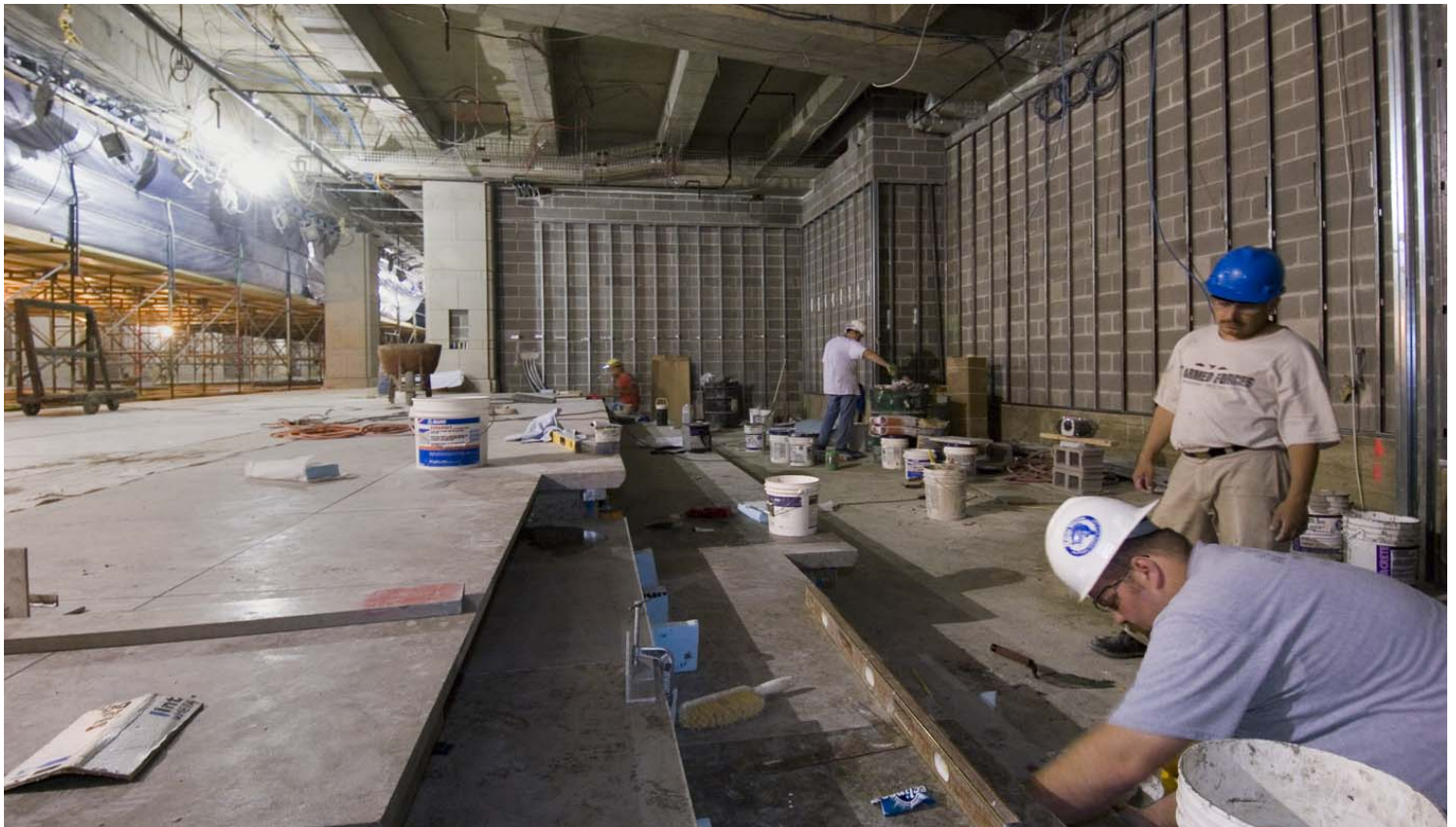
*For additional information about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at [tfontana@aoc.gov](mailto:tfontana@aoc.gov). Other project information is available on the CVC web site at [www.aoc.gov](http://www.aoc.gov).*



**A stone mason sets stone around a new elevator opening.**



**A mason sets historic stone to the seatwall around the Senate Egg.**



**Masons set stone to the steps leading into the virtual Senate Theater in the CVC's Exhibition Hall.**





**Stone masons have now completed nearly 35 percent of the floor stone installation in the CVC's Great Hall.**



**Above: Workers set masonry blocks to the inside of one of two historic fountains on the CVC plaza. The fountains will create a mist that according to the original designer, Frederick Law Olmsted, would “generate a rainbow that would frame the Capitol Dome.”**

**Left: A plaster worker completes ceiling work in a CVC corridor. The completion of ceiling work is critical because as ceiling scaffolds are removed, floor stone installation and other finish work can follow.**